AX

at least one meta-data attribute associated to said true-data attribute, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta-data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute; and

methods within each profile object to access the user data according to said meta-data attribute.

5UB B37

4) (Amended). A profiling service for accessing user data, said profiling service comprising:

means for storing at least one true-data attribute in a profile object, said true-data attribute includes a true-data key and at least one true-data value field;

means for associating at least one meta-data attribute with said truedata attribute, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute;

means for storing said associated meta-data attribute; and means for managing said true-data attribute according to said associated meta-data attribute.

42(Amended). A profile object for maintaining client configuration data in a hierarchical fashion, the profile object comprising:

at least one true-data attribute in the profile object, said true-data attribute includes a true-data key and at least one true-data value field; and

at least one meta-data attribute associated to with said true-data attribute, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta-data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute.

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-53 remain in this application. Claims 1, 18, 41 and 42 are amended to more distinctly describe the subject matter of applicant's invention and to emphasize limitations appearing in the claims as filed. No new matter is added by